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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/594,950	01/19/2007	Jonathan Morris Gold	2003/0101PUS1	6695
60601	7590	02/25/2010	EXAMINER	
Muncy, Geissler, Olds & Lowe, PLLC P.O. BOX 1364 FAIRFAX, VA 22038-1364			BROWN, PETER R	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			3636	
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			02/25/2010	PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/594,950	GOLD ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Peter R. Brown	3636	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 19 November 2009.
- 2a) This action is **FINAL**. 2b) This action is non-final.
- 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) Claim(s) 1,3-5 and 8-18 is/are pending in the application.
 - 4a) Of the above claim(s) 4 and 8-13 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) Claim(s) 1,3,5 and 14-18 is/are rejected.
- 7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) All b) Some * c) None of:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
- 4) Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
- 5) Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) Other: _____.

Claims 4 and 8-13 remain withdrawn from further consideration pursuant to 37 CFR 1.142(b), as being drawn to a nonelected a non-elected species,

Claims 1,3,5 and 14-18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

In claim 1, the phrase "conform to the ISOfix standard", is vague and indefinite, as there is no description of the structure of the connectors, as many different form of connectors may be utilized, including simple hooks, as well as more complicated latching assemblies. Note that there is also no differentiation set forth between an anchoring bar "that conforms to the ISOfix standard" and an engaging latch "that also conforms...". In addition, the ISOfix standard may change over time. The applicant is encouraged to set forth the structure of the connectors for clarity and definiteness.

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 1, 5,14-18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Barley.

Barley (figs. 4-9) shows structure as claimed, including an elongated body 80 having connectors 84,86,88 on opposing ends thereof. Note that the phrase "for connecting to an anchorage..." is functional and given little patentable weight, as the vehicle seat and child seat are not positively claimed.

Claims 1,5,14-18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Galbreath.

Figure 8 shows structure as claimed, including an elongated body for securing a child seat to a vehicle anchoring point, having a first latching connector 18-20 at one end and a second connector 33 at the other end. As broadly claimed, the anchor bar 33 may be considered to meet the "ISOfix standard". Note that the edges of the openings form "guide elements", and one of the connectors utilizes an automatic latching means with an actuator 21.

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claim 3 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Galbreath in view of Baloga et al ('649).

The use of a cross member between anchoring connectors for a child seat is shown to be conventional and well known in the art by Baloga et al (figs. 4,5), and in view of this suggestion, to have provided such for the connectors of Galbreath, for the purposes of creating a single unit and also allowing width adjustability therebetween, would have been an obvious modification to one with ordinary skill in the art.

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Lane Jr. shows various features of the invention including an elongate body with "ISOfix" connectors at each end.

Applicant's arguments filed November 19, 2009 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

As set forth in the above rejection, the phrase "conform to the ISOfix standard", is considered vague and indefinite. Note that child seats may simply utilize hooks for engagement to anchoring bars, as shown by Batalaris et al, thereby conforming to the ISOfix standard for connecting child seats within vehicles. As broadly as claim 1 has been set forth, it would appear that an elongate strap having a hook on each end would provide structure as claimed. Note also that in regards to the Barley and Lane Jr. references, the forward anchoring bar may be construed as "an anchorage of a child safety seat", while the rearmost anchoring bar would be the

“anchorage of the vehicle seat”, especially as the vehicle and child seats have not been positively recited in the claims.

THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL. Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Peter R. Brown whose telephone number is 571-272-6853. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR

only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Peter R. Brown/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit
3636

prb